OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini

Assembly Manual

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 System Requirements

1.1.1 Mac Requirements

•Minimum PowerPC G4 CPU, 128MB RAM
•eSATA interface, Mac OS X 10.3 or later
•FireWire interface, Mac OS X 10.2 or later
•USB 2.0 interface, Mac OS X 10.2 or later

1.1.2 PC Requirements

•Minimum 500MHz Intel Pentium III CPU, 128MB RAM
•eSATA interface, Windows XP / Vista / Windows 7
•FireWire interface, Windows 2000 / XP / Vista / Windows 7
•USB 2.0 interface, Windows 2000 / XP / Vista / Windows 7

1.1.3 Supported Hard Drives

•Any 2.5" SATA 9.5mm or 12.5mm hard drive
•Any 2.5" SATA Solid State Drive (SSD)

1.2 Package Contents

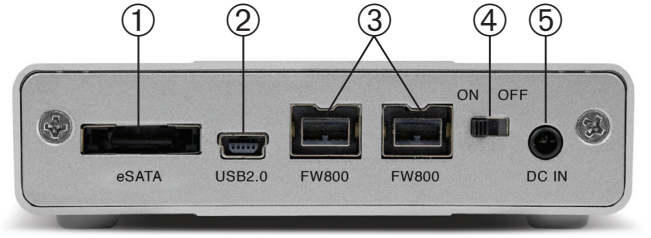
Item

① OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini
② Flexible eSATA cable
③ USB 2.0 (A-B) cable
④ Screws to attach hard drive
⑤ FireWire 800-400 Cable*(not all models)*
⑥ FireWire 800 (1394B cable
⑦ Software CD Bundle *(not all models)*
⑧ User Guide & Owner's Manual

1.3 About This Manual

Firmware, images, and descriptions may vary slightly between this manual and the unit shipped. Functions and features may change depending on the firmware version. Please visit the product webpage for the most recent specifications.

1.4 Port View & Cable Connections



Cable Connections:
The OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini has multiple interfaces to work with any computer system.

① **eSATA Port** - The utmost in speed. If you're trying to make your OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini the fastest it can be, attach an eSATA cable to this port.

② **USB mini Port** - Connect one of your computer's USB ports to the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini here using the included cable. If your computer's USB port does not provide enough power to use the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro, OWC offers a custom "Y" cable that will draw power from 2 separate USB ports - it's available for purchase at:
http://eshop.macsales.com/search/auxiliary

③ **FireWire 800 (1394B) Ports** - Connect one FireWire 800 port to your computer using the included cable and have an extra FireWire 800 port to add peripherals with!

④ **On/Off Switch** - Turn the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini on and off here.

⑤ **DC IN port -** Use an auxiliary power source (not included, and not normally needed) with your OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini with this port. If you need a power adapter, they are available via separate purchase at:
http://eshop.macsales.com/item/Other%20World%20Computing/MOTGPWR/

1.5 Detailed View

1.5.1 LED Indicator

The OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini has a single cool blue LED at the front of the hard drive enclosure. It will illuminate blue when powered on, and flash on drive activity (both reading and writing).

2 SYSTEM SETUP

This guide will get you up and running quickly, demonstrating how to install your own 2.5" hard drive into the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini enclosure.

Your computer is a static-sensitive device. It is susceptible to invisible damage if not protected during installation.

We recommend proper grounding by using a grounding strap. Make sure to work in a clean and static-free area, and avoid wearing clothing that retains static charges.
For more information, please visit
http://www.macsales.com/static

Got tools? If you don't have the tools necessary to complete this installation, Newer Technology has a fantastic toolkit with everything you need included to perform this installation, and most common computer hardware installations.

It's available at:
http://www.macsales.com/tools

2 SYSTEM SETUP

2.1 Hard Drive Assembly & Installation

①

Using a Phillips P0 screwdriver, remove the 2 screws that hold the rear backplane cover to the enclosure.

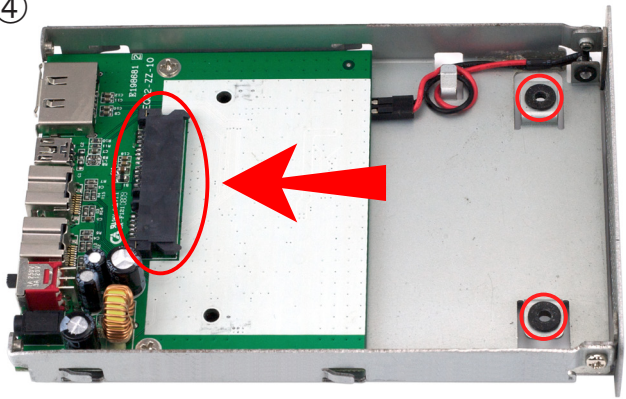
② Once the screws are removed, the rear backplane cover will easily come off. Set it aside to continue.

2 SYSTEM SETUP

2.1 Hard Drive Assembly & Installation (continued)

③ From the rear of the enclosure, press inwards on the rear ports to slide the inner chassis out towards the front of the enclosure.

④



Once the inner chassis is removed from the outer shell, you will see where your 2.5" SATA drive will attach to the bridge card.

2 SYSTEM SETUP

2.1 Hard Drive Assembly & Installation (continued)

⑤

Place your drive mechanism onto the bridge card, and press the drive towards the ports to firmly affix the drive into the SATA connector.

⑥

With your fingers holding the drive mechanism into the enclosure, flip it over onto the top so you can see the screw holes that you will need to use in the next step.

2 SYSTEM SETUP

2.1 Hard Drive Assembly & Installation (concluded)

⑦ Using the included screws from the plastic bag, attach the drive mechanism to the enclosure through the rubber grommets using your Phillips P0 screwdriver.

⑧

⑨

Once you have installed the drive mechanism, simply slide the inner chassis back through the outer shell. The outer shell can be installed in either direction, but there is a notch on one side that allows the back plate to fit properly. If your case gets turned around and the back plate does not fit correctly, try reinstalling it from the other side.
Then, place the rear port cover onto the back of the enclosure, and attach it using the 2 Phillips screws and your Phillips P0 screwdriver you removed to begin the process.

2.2 Computer Connections

The OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini is designed to bus power using the FireWire 800, or USB 2.0 connection from your computer. If you choose to use the eSATA interface, connect both the FireWire (either 800-800 or 800-400) and eSATA cables to your computer, the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini will use the power provided by the FireWire interface to power the eSATA connection, which is data only. You can also purchase a separate power adapter, if your computer does not have a FireWire connection. See section 1.4 for further details about this cable and other options.
To use the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini, connect any interface cable to the drive and the computer. Then, turn the power switch to the ON position, and verify the blue LED on the front of the drive is illuminated.
Your drive should mount on your computer's desktop, or a dialog box will appear if you have a new, unformatted drive installed.

3 FORMATTING

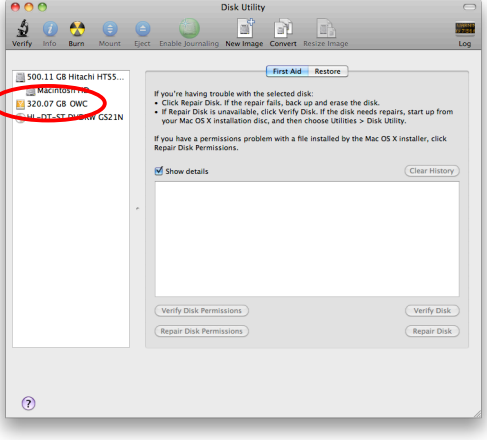
3.1 Formatting your OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini on a Macintosh with Mac OS X

IMPORTANT NOTE: This procedure will erase all data on your hard disk drives in the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini. Back up any important data before proceeding!

①

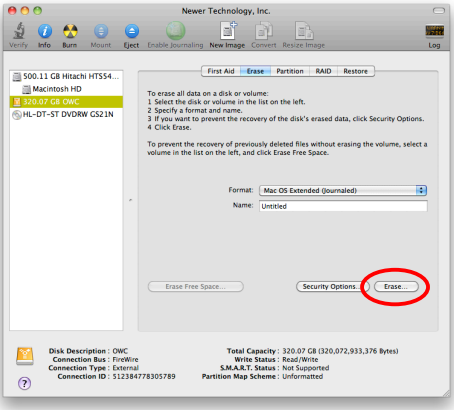
Click on the "Initialize" button. (If this does not appear, open Disk Utility located in /Applications/Utilities)

②


Disk Utility
Verify
Info
Burn
Mount
Eject
Enable Journaling
New Image
Convert
Resize Image
Log
500.11 GB Hitachi HTS5...
Macintosh HD
320.07 GB OWC
First Aid
Restore
If you're having trouble with the selected disk:
• Click Repair Disk. If the repair fails, back up and erase the disk.
• If Repair Disk is unavailable, click Verify Disk. If the disk needs repairs, start up from your Mac OS X installation disc, and then choose Utilities > Disk Utility.
If you have a permissions problem with a file installed by the Mac OS X installer, click Repair Disk Permissions.
Show details
Clear History
Verify Disk Permissions
Verify Disk
Repair Disk Permissions
Repair Disk

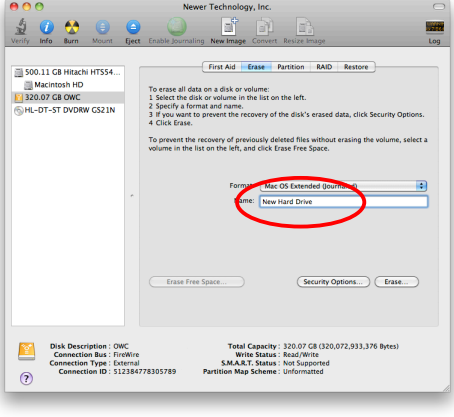
Select the device with no volumes attached to it; in this picture, that would be the 320.07 GB OWC device. Click on the picture of the drive icon next to the text.

③


Newer Technology, Inc.
Verify Info Burn Mount Eject Enable Journaling New Image Convert Resize Image Log
500.11 GB Hitachi HTS54...
Macintosh HD
320.07 GB OWC
HL-DT-ST DVDRW GS21N
First Aid Erase Partition RAID Restore
To erase all data on a disk or volume:
1 Select the disk or volume in the list on the left.
2 Specify a format and name.
3 If you want to prevent the recovery of the disk's erased data, click Security Options.
4 Click Erase.
To prevent the recovery of previously deleted files without erasing the volume, select a volume in the list on the left, and click Erase Free Space.
Format: Mac OS Extended (Journaled)
Name: Untitled
Erase Free Space...
Security Options...
Erase...
Disk Description : OWC
Connection Bus : FireWire
Connection Type : External
Connection ID : 512384778305789
Total Capacity : 320.07 GB (320,072,933,376 Bytes)
Write Status : Read/Write
S.M.A.R.T. Status : Not Supported
Partition Map Scheme : Unformatted

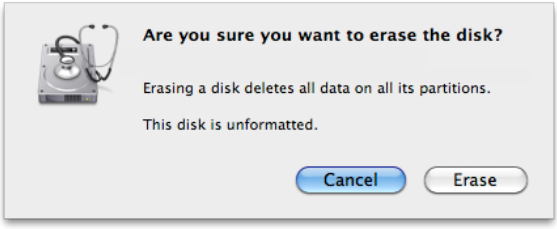
Once you've selected the OWC device, you will notice the above change in the Disk Utility application. Click on the "Erase" tab in this picture.

④


Newer Technology, Inc.
Verify Info Burn Mount Eject Enable Journaling New Image Convert Resize Image Log
500.11 GB Hitachi HTS54...
Macintosh HD
320.07 GB OWC
HL-DT-ST DVDRW GS21N
First Aid Erase Partition RAID Restore
To erase all data on a disk or volume:
1 Select the disk or volume in the list on the left.
2 Specify a format and name.
3 If you want to prevent the recovery of the disk's erased data, click Security Options.
4 Click Erase.
To prevent the recovery of previously deleted files without erasing the volume, select a volume in the list on the left, and click Erase Free Space.
Format: Mac OS Extended (Journaled)
Name: New Hard Drive
Erase Free Space...
Security Options...
Erase...
Disk Description : OWC
Connection Bus : FireWire
Connection Type : External
Connection ID : 512384778305789
Total Capacity : 320.07 GB (320,072,933,376 Bytes)
Write Status : Read/Write
S.M.A.R.T. Status : Not Supported
Partition Map Scheme : Unformatted

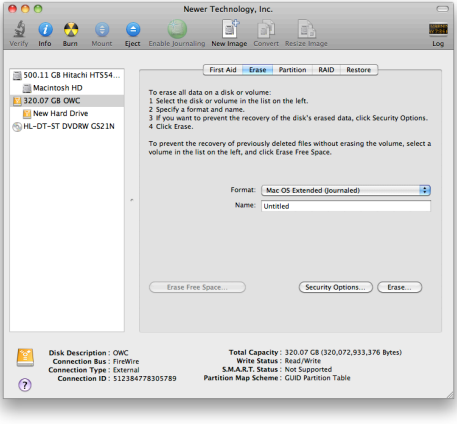
You then need to name the volume that you want to format, and erase it. Name the volume as you want, choose the Volume Format pulldown (Mac OS Extended (Journaled) is default), and click the Erase button.

⑤


Are you sure you want to erase the disk?
Erasing a disk deletes all data on all its partitions.
This disk is unformatted.
Cancel
Erase

Click the erase button to confirm you wish to erase the disk.

⑥


Newer Technology, Inc.
Verify Info Burn Mount Eject Enable Journaling New Image Convert Resize Image Log
500.11 GB Hitachi HTS54...
Macintosh HD
320.07 GB OWC
New Hard Drive
HL-DT-ST DVDRW GS21N
First Aid Erase Partition RAID Restore
To erase all data on a disk or volume:
1 Select the disk or volume in the list on the left.
2 Specify a format and name.
3 If you want to prevent the recovery of the disk's erased data, click Security Options.
4 Click Erase.
To prevent the recovery of previously deleted files without erasing the volume, select a volume in the list on the left, and click Erase Free Space.
Format: Mac OS Extended (Journaled)
Name: Untitled
Erase Free Space...
Security Options...
Erase...
Disk Description : OWC
Connection Bus : FireWire
Connection Type : External
Connection ID : 512384778305789
Total Capacity : 320.07 GB (320,072,933,376 Bytes)
Write Status : Read/Write
S.M.A.R.T. Status : Not Supported
Partition Map Scheme : GUID Partition Table

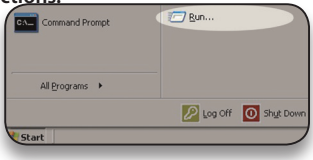
After a few moments, the erase command will complete and the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini volume will mount on your desktop. You can quit Disk Utility, you're all set!

3.2 Removing the GUID Partition Scheme

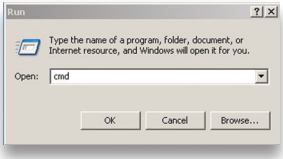
Only for XP, 2000, ME and earlier. (XP 64-BIT, Vista & Windows 7 can continue to the next section)

If you are not installing a brand-new hard drive into your enclosure, it may have a GUID drive partition already installed on it, especially if it was originally used with a Macintosh. Unfortunately, this is not readable by Windows without special software. If you wish to use your storage solution on a computer running Windows, you will need to repartition and reformat using the following instructions.

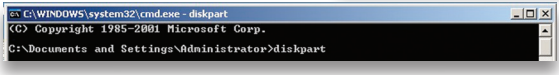
① Go to the DOS command prompt by selecting "Run" from the Start Menu.



② Type in **cmd** in text box, and hit the"OK" button.

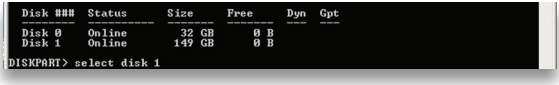


③ Type **diskpart** and hit enter.



④ Type **list disk** and hit enter.

⑤ Type **select disk *x*** replacing *x* with the number of the disk you want to reformat. (Typically, you will see an asterisk (*) under "GPT" for the disk requiring formatting.)



WARNING: The **clean** command will destroy ALL data on the disk you run it on!!! Be sure there is **nothing** you need to keep on your drive before running any of these commands.

⑥ Type **clean** and hit enter.

⑦ Type **exit** and hit enter.

⑧ Close the command prompt window.

You may now proceed with formatting the drive.

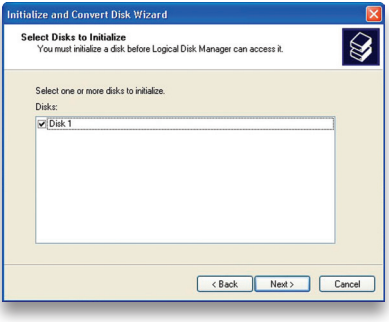
3.3 Formatting your OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini on Windows 2000 and later

Instructions for other operating systems can be found at http://www.macsales.com/format.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This procedure will erase all data on your hard disk drives in the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini. Back up any important data before proceeding!

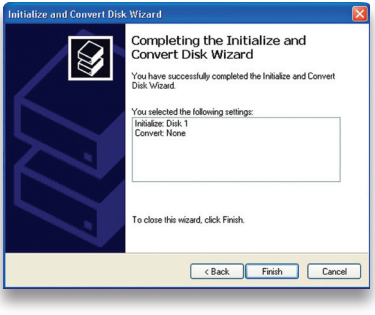
① With the drive connected to the computer and powered on, right click on the "My Computer" icon and select "Manage" from the menu. The "Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard" window should appear.

If the Wizard does not appear, expand the Storage menu by clicking on the plus (+) sign. Then, right click next to the disk number of the drive that you have just connected and click Initialize to bring up the Wizard.

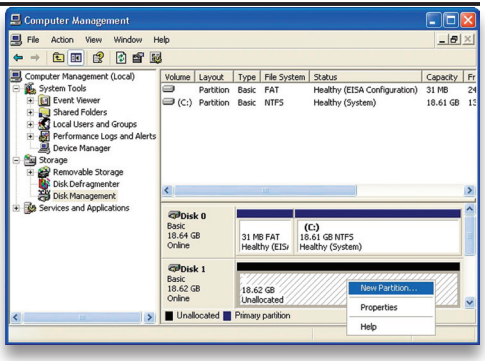

Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard
Select Disks to Initialize
You must initialize a disk before Logical Disk Manager can access it.
Select one or more disks to initialize.
Disks:
Disk 1
< Back
Next >
Cancel

② In the next window, there should be only one drive listed. That will be the drive that you connected via eSATA, FireWire or USB. Make sure the box next to the drive name is checked and click "Next."

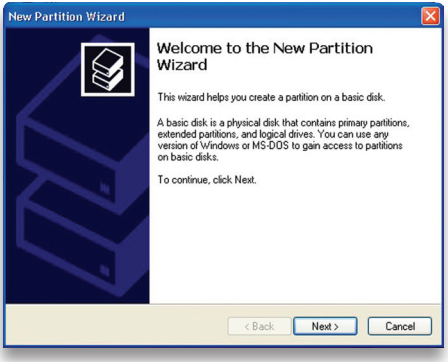
③ The Wizard will perform its tasks, and you will get the following screen. You may click "Finish."


Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard
Completing the Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard
You have successfully completed the Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard.
You selected the following settings:
Initialize: Disk 1
Convert: None
To close this wizard, click Finish.
< Back
Finish
Cancel

④ Your drive will appear similar to how Disk 1 does below. Notice that the space on the lower right reads as "Unallocated." Right click in this space and choose "New Partition."

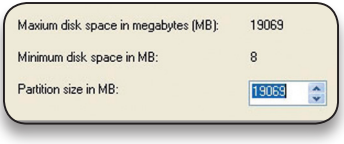


⑤ The "New Partition Wizard" will launch. Click "Next" to continue.

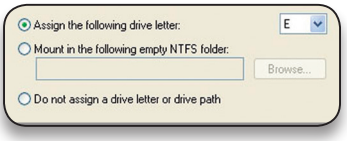

New Partition Wizard
Welcome to the New Partition Wizard
This wizard helps you create a partition on a basic disk.
A basic disk is a physical disk that contains primary partitions, extended partitions, and logical drives. You can use any version of Windows or MS-DOS to gain access to partitions on basic disks.
To continue, click Next.
< Back
Next >
Cancel

⑥ Specify your partition type as "Primary," and click "Next."

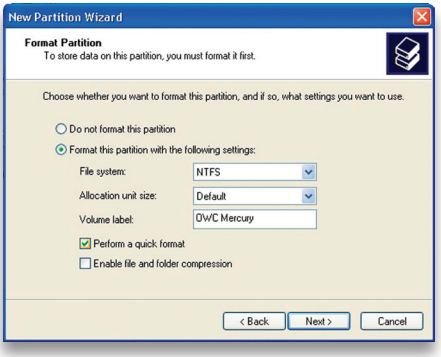
⑦ The wizard will display the maximum partition size for your drive. It is strongly recommended that you **do not** change the default value. Click "Next"



⑧ If you like, you can specify the drive letter designation for your new drive. Otherwise, one will automatically be assigned. Click "Next."

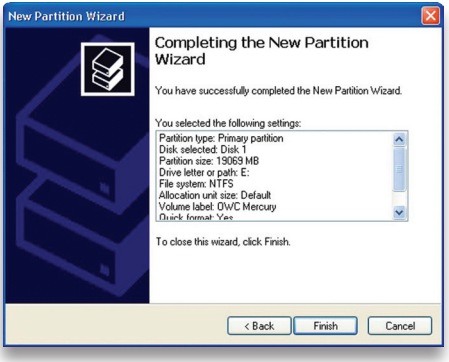

Assign the following drive letter:
E
Mount in the following empty NTFS folder:
Browse...
Do not assign a drive letter or drive path

⑨ Before you can use the drive, it must be formatted. On most systems running Windows 2000 or later, it is advisable to specify the file system as NTFS. Leave the Allocation unit size as "Default," and feel free to give the drive whatever name you prefer. Be sure to check the box "Perform a quick format".

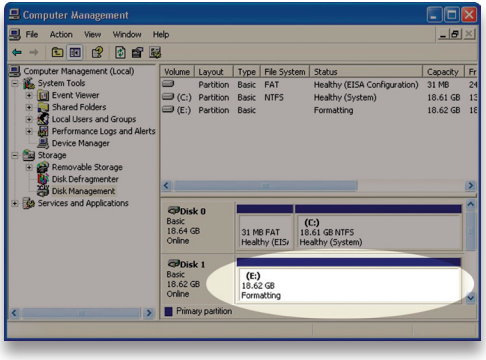

New Partition Wizard
Format Partition
To store data on this partition, you must format it first.
Choose whether you want to format this partition, and if so, what settings you want to use.
Do not format this partition
Format this partition with the following settings:
File system:
NTFS
Allocation unit size:
Default
Volume label:
OWC Mercury
Perform a quick format
Enable file and folder compression
< Back
Next >
Cancel

If you do not, it will likely take several hours for your drive to format. Click "Next."

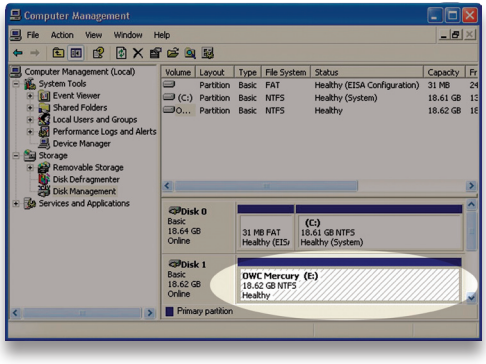
⑩ At the end of the Wizard, you will see a summary of the information that you specified during the previous steps. Click "Finish."



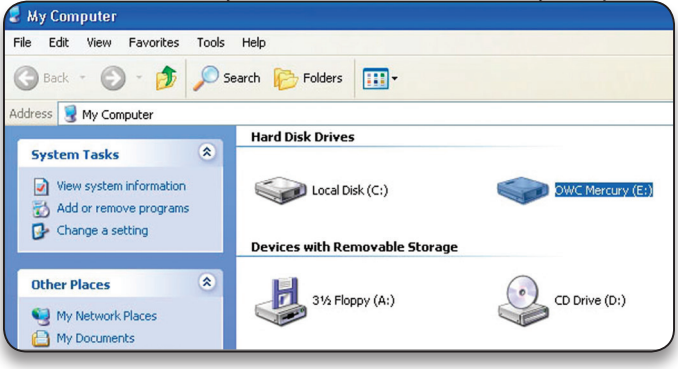
①① Once you have finished with the formatting wizard, you will see that your new drive (represented as "Disk E" in this case) will display a message of "Formatting." This should only take a couple of minutes if you chose the quick format option.



①② After a moment or two, the drive's status will change from "Formatting" to "Healthy."



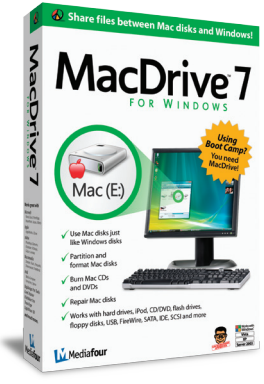
①③ At this point, you may close the Computer Management window. Your drive is ready to use and can be found in "My Computer."



Using your new Storage Solution on both Macs and PCs?

MacDrive takes the guesswork out of sharing files. Whether you are transferring files between home and the office, a class room lab and your dorm room or even on the same computer, MacDrive makes it painless.
In fact, you'll hardly know MacDrive is working.

Once installed MacDrive will automatically give you access to any Mac disk you pop into your computer. MacDrive even puts an "apple" icon on the Mac disk, just to keep things clear.


Share files between Mac disks and Windows!
MacDrive 7
FOR WINDOWS
Mac (E:)
Using Boot Camp? You need MacDrive!
Use Mac disks just like Windows disks
Partition and format Mac disks
Burn Mac CDs and DVDs
Repair Mac disks
Works with hard drives, iPod, CD/DVD, flash drives, floppy disks, USB, FireWire, SATA, IDE, SCSI and more
Mediafour

You can access files on the Mac disk just like you would with a Windows formatted disk. Open files from the disk or from within a program. Mac files automatically get the right icons and file name extensions under both Windows and Mac OS.
Works great with software from Microsoft, Adobe, Quark, FileMaker, Avid, Digidesign, Corel, NewTek and more.

You can find MacDrive 7 at:
http://eshop.macsales.com/search/macdrive

4 TROUBLESHOOTING & TIPS

4.1 Troubleshooting

Some of the most simple problems can be traced to power, or connectivity issues.

Verify that your cables (both ends!) are properly plugged into the computer and storage solution. If they are, and the storage solution is still not working properly, try connecting to another interface such as the USB connection and see if the device works properly. If these suggestions do not work, try the OWC Mercury Elite-A Pro mini on a different computer, if available to you.

4.2 Tips

To properly dismount any connected hard drives from your computer, you need to follow a few simple steps.

• For Macintosh systems:

There are two methods to umount disks with Macintosh systems. Either drag the icon for the hard disk you wish to dismount to the trash can, or click the eject icon next to the hard disk name in under the "DEVICES" tab in the sidebar in any finder window.

• For Windows systems:

1. Go to the System Tray (located in the lower right corner of your screen). Click on the Eject icon (a small green arrow over a hardware image).
2. A message will appear, detailing the devices that the Eject icon controls. i.e. "Safely remove..." Click on this prompt.
3. You will then be given the following message. "Safe to Remove Hardware". It is now safe to unhook the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini.

5 APPENDIX

5.1 FAQ

Q: How do I format my storage solution?
A: OWC has detailed instructions online for most popular operating systems, located at: **`http://eshop.macsales.com/tech_center/fwhdd.cfm`**

Q: What file system should I choose when formatting my drive?
A: This will depend on how you want to use the drive, but in general we recommend:
• Mac OS X : HFS + (Mac OS Extended)
• Windows 2000/XP/Vista : NTFS
• For cross-platform compatibility, FAT32 will work, but single file sizes are limited to 4GB. Other options using 3rd party software exist but are not covered here.

Q: Will the hard drives spin down when my computer goes to sleep or into stand-by mode?
A: Yes, they will spin down to save energy. It will take about 30 seconds to access your data after being in sleep or stand-by mode.

5.2 About Data Protection

To ensure that your files are protected and to prevent the loss of your data, we strongly suggest that you keep two copies of your data: one copy on your OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini, and a second copy on either your internal hard drive or another storage medium, such as an optical backup, or on a second external hard drive. Any data loss or corruption while using the OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro mini is the sole responsibility of the user, and under no circumstances will Other World Computing be held liable for compensation or the recovery of any lost data.

6 CUSTOMER SERVICE

6.1 Before Contacting Customer Service

•Read this manual and review Chapter 4: Troubleshooting & Tips.
•Try to confirm the problem is with the hard drive. If you have a second computer, move the enclosure to that system and verify that the solution does not function with that machine.

•Visit our tech center for more support suggestions, including FAQs.
http://eshop.macsales.com/tech_center/index.cfm

If you still need support, please have the following available to you:
• The serial number of the enclosure
• Your invoice number
• What operating system you are using
• Which kind and model of computer you are using

All of this will help speed your support contact along.

6.2 Support Hours Of Operation

8AM - 8PM CST Monday - Friday
9AM - 4PM CST Saturday

By Telephone - (800) 275-4576 (North America only)
International customers please call (815) 338-8685

Live Chat is available during normal business hours as well. Visit: http://eshop.macsales.com for more information.

Or, you can email. Submit your email at http://eshop.macsales.com/Service/Tech.cfm

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FCC Statement:
Warning! Modifications not authorized by the manufacturer may void the user's authority to operate this device.
NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference with radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference, in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.
NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference with radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:
• Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
• Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
• Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
Health And Safety Precautions:
• Use proper anti-static precautions while performing the installation of your hard drives into this drive enclosure. Failure to do so can cause damage to your drive mechanisms, and / or the hard drive enclosure.
• Read this User's Guide carefully, and follow the correct procedure when setting up the device.
• Do not open your hard drive or attempt to disassemble or modify it. Never insert any metallic object into the drive to avoid any risk of electrical shock, fire, short-circuiting or dangerous emissions. Your hard drive contains no user-serviceable parts. If it appears to be malfunctioning, have it inspected by a qualified Other World Computing Technical Support representative.
• Never expose your device to rain, or use it near water, or in damp or wet conditions. Never place objects containing liquids on the drive, as they may spill into its openings. Doing so increases the risk of electrical shock, short-circuiting, fire or personal injury.
General Use Precautions:
• Do not expose the enclosure to temperatures outside the range of 5° C to 40° C (41° F to 104° F). Doing so may damage the drive or disfigure its casing. Avoid placing your drive near a source of heat or exposing it to sunlight (even through a window). Conversely, placing your drive in an environment that is too cold or humid may damage the unit.
• Always unplug the hard drive from the electrical outlet if there is a risk of lightning or if it will be unused for an extended period of time. Otherwise, there is an increased risk of electrical shock, short-circuiting or fire.
• Use only the power supply shipped with the device.
• Do not use the hard drive near other electrical appliances such as televisions, radios or speakers. Doing so may cause interference which will adversely affect the operation of the other products.
• Do not place the drive near sources of magnetic interference, such as computer displays, televisions or speakers. Magnetic interference can affect the operation and stability of your hard drive.
• Do not place heavy objects on top of the drive.
• If you detect a problem, consult the Troubleshooting section in this manual.
• Protect your hard drive from excessive exposure to dust during use or storage. Dust can build up inside the device, increasing the risk of damage or malfunction.
• Other World Computing recommends the use of normal glass cleaning products to keep the high lustre finish at its finest with this product. Be sure not to get any moisture inside the holes and if you do, allow time to air dry before use.
• Do not block the ventilation outlets on the front of the drive. These help to keep your drive cool during operation. Blocking the ventilation outlets may cause damage to your drive and cause an increased risk of short-circuiting or fire.

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